

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An ultrasonic probe comprising:

an ultrasonic transceiver unit; ~~unit comprising an acoustic lens; and~~

an acoustic lens; and

an enclosure that encloses the ultrasonic transceiver unit and the acoustic lens, the enclosure comprising:

a first partial enclosure ~~formed of~~ comprising a hard plastic material having an opening at the tip, the ultrasonic transceiver unit extending through the opening; and

a second partial enclosure integrally formed with the first partial enclosure so as to cover the ultrasonic transceiver unit extending through the opening of the first partial enclosure, the second partial enclosure ~~formed of~~ comprising a soft plastic material, the acoustic lens ~~of the ultrasonic transceiver unit~~ positioned between and in direct contact with the second partial enclosure and the ultrasonic transceiver unit.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the second partial enclosure comprises a thin film in contact with the acoustic lens.

4. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastic material comprises polycarbonate.

5. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastic material comprises poly-butylene-terephthalate.

6. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastic material comprises a ABS resin.

7. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastic material comprises a thermoplastic resin.

8. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the soft plastic material comprises a thermoplastic polymer.

9. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the ultrasonic transceiver unit includes an ultrasonic transducer array.

10. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 9, wherein the acoustic lens forms a transmission/reception surface.

11. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the second partial enclosure has a color corresponding to the center frequency of ultrasonic waves.

12. (currently amended) An enclosure for an ultrasonic transceiver unit and an acoustic lens, the enclosure comprising:

a first portion comprising a tip, the tip having an opening ~~through which~~ sized to receive the ultrasonic transceiver unit ~~extends therethrough~~; and

a second portion integrally formed with the first portion to cover the opening, the second portion having an inner surface in contact with ~~[[an]]~~ the acoustic lens ~~of the ultrasonic transceiver unit~~.

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the inner surface of the second portion comprises a thin film.

15. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a polycarbonate.

16. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a poly-butylene-terephthalate.

17. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises an ABS resin.

18. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a thermoplastic resin.

19. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the second portion comprises a thermoplastic polymer.

20. (previously presented) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the second portion has a color corresponding to a center frequency of ultrasonic waves transmitted by the ultrasonic transceiver unit.